

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-40. (previously canceled)

41. (currently amended): A vehicle immobilisation device for securing to a vehicle windscreen, comprising:

a screen which, when the device is in an in-use disposition on the vehicle windscreen, serves to impair a driver's view through the windscreen, wherein the screen is changeable from a first configuration to a second configuration, the first configuration being more compact than the second configuration;

a grip for holding said ~~screening means screen~~ in said in-use disposition on said windscreen by suction;

a release mechanism for enabling release of the suction of said grip so as to allow removal of the device from the windscreen; and

a security mechanism for preventing unauthorised operation of said ~~releasing means release mechanism~~.

42. (previously added): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 41, further comprising a pump handle that is operable by the user of the vehicle immobilisation device to produce the suction in the grip.

43. (previously added): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 42, wherein said pump handle is formed and arranged so as to serve also as a grip handle for lifting and carrying the vehicle immobilisation device.

44. (currently amended): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 41, further comprising a housing for said releasing mechanism, and a cover moveable between an open position allowing access to said release mechanism and a closed position preventing access to said release mechanism, said security mechanism serving to lock said cover in said closed position.

45. (previously added): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 44, wherein said cover comprises a hinged lid.

46. (previously added): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 44, wherein said cover also acts as said screen.

47. (currently amended): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 41, wherein a plurality of said grips are provided and wherein a cover and security mechanism are provided separately for each of said ~~plurality of grips~~.

48. (previously added): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 41, further comprising a protective layer arranged to cushion the vehicle windscreen from contact with the device during fitting and when in said in-use disposition on said vehicle windscreen.

49. (previously added): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 48, wherein said protective layer is formed of high density foam.

50. (currently amended): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 41, further comprising a grip protector for preventing access to said grip from ~~the an~~ under-side of the device facing the windscreen when in said in-use disposition.

51. (previously added): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 49, wherein said protective layer is arranged around said suction grip means so as to serve as a grip protector.

52. (previously added): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 41, wherein said device assumes a substantially flat profile when in said in-use disposition.

53. (currently amended): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 41, wherein parts of the device visible from the exterior of ~~the a~~ vehicle when the device is in said in-use disposition on the vehicle are decorated in a highly visible finish.

54. (previously added): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 53, wherein said highly visible finish is a reflective finish.

55. (previously added): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 41, wherein said screen comprises a plurality of screen portions.

56. (previously added): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 55, wherein said screen portions are arranged and connected so as to be foldable or operable to be rolled up.

57. (previously added): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 41, wherein said screen comprises two screen portions which are hingeably connected together.

58. (currently amended): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 41, wherein said screen ~~means~~ comprises rubber.

59. (currently amended): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in ~~claim 18~~ claim 41, wherein the screen further comprises a plurality of rigid formings.

60. (currently amended): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 58, wherein said ~~screening means~~ screen is sonically welded to the suction ~~grip means~~.

61. (previously added): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 41, where said grip comprises one or more suction cups.

62. (previously added): A vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 41, wherein the width of the device is of the order of $2d \tan \theta$, where d is an estimate of the distance from the driver's eye to the vehicle windscreen, and θ is greater than 5° .

63. (currently amended): A method for securing a vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 41, to a vehicle windscreen, comprising the steps of:

changing said screen from said first configuration to said second configuration;
arranging said screen on the vehicle windscreen in said in-use disposition so as to impair a driver's view through the windscreen;
activating said grip means so as to hold said ~~screening means~~ screen in said in-use disposition on said windscreen by means of suction; and
activating said security mechanism so as to prevent unauthorised operation of said release mechanism.

64. (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 63, wherein said screen is arranged on said vehicle windscreen such that the centre of the ~~screening means~~ screen is substantially in the driver's line of vision.

65. (previously added): A method as claimed in claim 63, wherein the vehicle immobilisation device is placed on the exterior of the vehicle windscreen.

66. (previously added): A method as claimed in claim 63 further comprising the step of applying an information sticker to the windscreen.

67. (currently amended): A method for removing a vehicle immobilisation device secured to a vehicle windscreen by a method as claimed in claim 63, comprising the steps of:

de-activating said security mechanism so as to enable operation of said release mechanism;
operating said ~~released release~~ mechanism to deactivate said suction grip means;
removing the vehicle immobilisation device from the vehicle windscreen; and

changing said screen from said second configuration to said first configuration.

68. (currently amended): A method of preventing a vehicle from being driven away,
comprising attaching a device as claimed in claim 41 to ~~a~~ the vehicle windscreen.

69. (canceled)

70. (previously added): A vehicle immobilisation device for securing to a vehicle windscreen, comprising:

screening means which, when the device is in an in-use disposition on the vehicle windscreen, serves to impair a driver's view through the windscreen, wherein the screening means is changeable from a first configuration to a second configuration, the first configuration being more compact than the second configuration;

suction grip means for holding said screening means in said in-use disposition on said windscreen by suction;

releasing means for enabling release of the suction of said suction grip means so as to allow removal of the device from the windscreen; and

security means for preventing unauthorised operation of said releasing means.

71. (previously added): A method for securing a vehicle immobilisation device as claimed in claim 70 to a vehicle windscreen, comprising the steps of:

changing said screening means from said first configuration to said second configuration;

arranging said screening means on the vehicle windscreen in said in-use disposition so as to impair a driver's view through the windscreen;

activating said grip means so as to hold said screening means in said in-use disposition on said windscreen; and

activating said security means so as to prevent unauthorised operation of said releasing means.

72. (previously added): A method for removing a vehicle immobilisation device secured to a vehicle windscreen by a method as claimed in claim 71, further comprising the steps of:

de-activating said security means so as to enable operation of said releasing means;
operating said releasing means to deactivate said suction grip means;
removing the vehicle immobilisation device from the vehicle windscreen; and
changing said screening means from said second configuration to said first configuration.